

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 477

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of John Bachman
Hardcastle of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. John Bachman Hardcastle; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hardcastle was an exemplary citizen and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, instrumental in both the development and the preservation of Nashville that have made it the vibrant metropolitan city it is today, John Bachman Hardcastle was a distinguished business leader, dedicated conservationist, and respected local historian; and

WHEREAS, born on July 22, 1936, John Hardcastle was raised in Nashville and was a 1954 graduate of Montgomery Bell Academy, where he served as president of the student body during his senior year; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Vanderbilt University in 1958, Mr. Hardcastle embarked upon a career in banking at the Nashville Bank & Trust Company, later known as Nashville CityBank. He graduated from the Stonier Graduate School of Banking in 1972; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished businessman and alumnus of Leadership Nashville, Mr. Hardcastle concluded his banking career as Vice Chairman of the Board of Dominion Bank of Middle Tennessee to become the president of the H.G. Hill Realty Company; and

WHEREAS, as head of H.G. Hill Realty, Mr. Hardcastle led the development of Hill Place, oversaw the redevelopment of parts of Hillsboro Village, and initiated the planning on what would eventually become Hill Center in Green Hills; and

WHEREAS, renowned for his love of nature and the outdoors, John Hardcastle served two terms as the President of Friends of Warner Parks and received its Best Friend Award. He was also a two-term member of the Conservation Commission of the State of Tennessee, one

of four citizen-members of Governor Lamar Alexander's Safe Growth Team, and a member of the Tennessee Outdoors Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hardcastle served as a trustee of the Tennessee Chapter of the Nature Conservancy for more than a decade, including three terms as chairman, and he received the organization's prestigious National Oak Leaf Award for effective leadership and outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, active in the effort to save scenic Radnor Lake from commercial development, John Hardcastle served a number of years on the Friends of Radnor Lake board and, in the 1990s, founded the informal Full Moon Walking Society with his son Wilson. The duo led unique hikes and monthly walks through the Warner Parks on the Tuesdays closest to the full moons; and

WHEREAS, a respected authority on state and local history, John Hardcastle was the Director and former President of the Tennessee Historical Society, a commissioner on the Metropolitan Historical Commission, and a significant contributor to *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*; and

WHEREAS, in sharing his expansive knowledge of local historical lore, Mr. Hardcastle made numerous presentations in full historic garb adopting the persona of James Robertson. In 1976, he participated in the reenactment of the 1779 flatboat trip led by John Donelson from Kingsport to the banks of the Cumberland River settlement that ultimately became Nashville; and

WHEREAS, an active member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, John Hardcastle served faithfully as a deacon, an elder, a Sunday School teacher, and Clerk of the Session. He was also the moderator of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, a commissioner to the 213th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and a member of the advisory board of Columbia Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, preceded in death by his parents, Kendrick Crossman Hardcastle, Jr. and Elizabeth Bachman Hardcastle, his brother, Kendrick Crossman Hardcastle III, and his nephew, Kendrick Crossman Hardcastle IV, John Bachman Hardcastle is survived by his beloved wife, Frances Keltner Hardcastle, his children and their spouses, John Bachman and Stephanie Hardcastle, Jr., MacDonald Keltner and Emily Hardcastle, and Wilson Gaut Hardcastle; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hardcastle is also survived by his grandchildren, Bradley William Hardcastle, Ellen Merritt Hardcastle, and Leland Keltner Hardcastle; his sister-in-law, Mia Canaris Hardcastle; his nephew, Christiansen Niels Hardcastle; and a host of dear friends; and

WHEREAS, a thoughtful and gracious gentleman, Mr. Hardcastle leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this truly exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. John Bachman Hardcastle, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his extraordinary contributions to the people of Tennessee, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hardcastle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.